



MARCIA J. NIELSEN, PhD, MPH
Interim Executive Director

K A N S A S
KANSAS HEALTH POLICY AUTHORITY

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Kansas Health Policy Authority has new leadership
Two new members of KHPA also confirmed by Kansas Senate

Having served as former Chair of the Kansas Health Policy Authority Board, Marcia Nielsen, Ph.D., MPH, has been named Executive Director of the Authority and confirmed by the Kansas Senate today.

Rob Kaplan and Ray Davis, Ph.D., were also confirmed by the Senate today as members of the Kansas Health Policy Authority.

"I am pleased to serve as Executive Director of the Authority. It is an exciting time for this agency, and I am looking forward to continuing our momentum and serving the people of Kansas by providing accessible and affordable health care," said Dr. Nielsen. "Rob and Ray's experience will be essential as this board moves forward. We are privileged to have their expertise as the board works to enhance efficiency in health care purchasing, use data to drive health policy decisions and focus on health promotion and disease prevention."

Dr. Nielsen was first appointed as Interim Executive Director on June 20, 2006, and it was effective July 10, 2006. Since the Authority Board began meeting in November of 2005, she served as Chair.

Previously, Dr. Nielsen was a faculty member in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the University of Kansas Medical Center, as well as Assistant Vice Chancellor of Health Policy. Prior to joining the University of Kansas in 2002, she spent ten years working in Washington, D.C., as a senior legislative assistant for a U.S. Senator and a health care lobbyist.

Dr. Nielsen received a Ph.D. in Health Policy and Management from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, a Master of Public Health degree from George Washington University, and a Bachelor of Science from Briar Cliff College in Sioux City, Iowa. Marci is a Nebraska native, a former US Army Reservist, and a returned Peace Corps volunteer. She currently lives with her husband and twin daughters in Prairie Village, Kansas.

Kaplan, New York City, is a senior lecturer at Harvard Business School. He is also a senior director of The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Until January of 2006, he was vice chairman of Goldman Sachs and a member of the firm's Management Committee. Previously, he served as global co-head of the Investment Banking Division from 1999 through mid-2002. At that time, he was appointed vice chairman of the firm with responsibility of the investment banking and investment management divisions of the firm. Kaplan became a partner with the firm in 1990. He is a member of the board of Harvard Medical School, co-chairs the advisory council of the Harvard Center for Neurodegeneration and Repair and is co-chair of the board of Project A.L.S. He is originally from Prairie Village, Kansas, and graduate of the University of Kansas.

Dr. Davis, Lawrence, has been an associate professor in the Department of Public Administration at the University of Kansas since 1977. Since 1982, he has been an adjunct professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the University of Kansas School of Medicine. Dr. Davis served as chair of that department between 1982 and 1997. He has served as chair and board member of the Association of University Programs in Health Administration and commissioner of the Accrediting Commission on Education for Health Services Administration. Dr. Davis is also an author of numerous papers and publications. He received his undergraduate and master's degree from the University of Wyoming, and Ph.D. from the University of California, Davis in political science.

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